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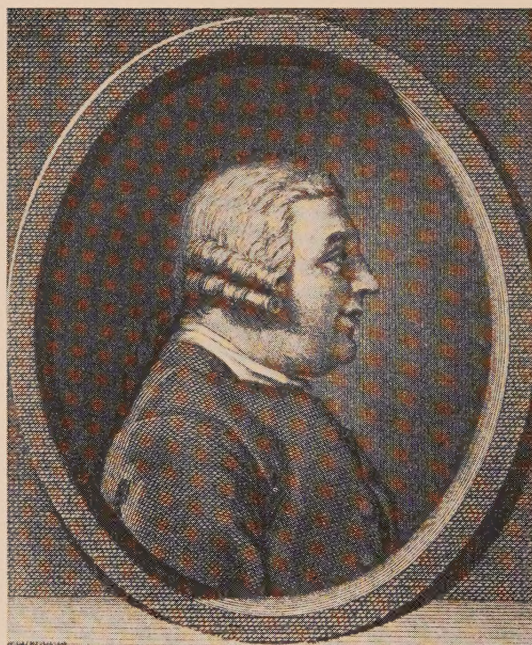
HARVARD LIBRARY NOTES



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THOMAS HOLLIS, ESQ. F.R.S.

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY

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NOTES

VOLUME III

JUNE, 1935

NUMBER 2

THE COMMITTEE appointed by the Board of Overseers to visit the Library held its annual meeting on April 8th. In the afternoon several members came to the Library, where they were met by members of the Library Council and the Director and Librarian. In the Treasure Room were on exhibition some of the rarer books recently received, and in the Archives Department there was a special exhibition of Harvard diplomas of various dates. The earliest was 1676, and the latest a specimen of the new form, to be used for the first time next Commencement.

In the evening the chairman of the Committee, Mr. Walter S. Gifford, entertained at a dinner at the Club of Odd Volumes, in Boston, the following members of the Committee: Messrs. Harper and Wilmerding from New York, Mr. Warren from Washington, Messrs. Hart, Parker, Richardson, and Taylor of Boston, Professors Gay and Munn, and Mr. Blake and Mr. Potter. The Director and the Librarian each reported informally on various aspects of the Library's affairs in the past year and on its prospects for the coming year. The Committee voted to continue its sponsorship of the "Notes."

HORACE WALPOLE and Thomas Hollis were contemporaries, but men of very different character and utterly opposite political and religious views. It is not probable that they knew each other personally, although each has left in his writings some rather uncomplimentary remarks about the other. Chance has brought them together in this issue of the "Notes," — Walpole because of the remarkable collection of his works gathered by Percival Merritt, '82, and Hollis because of the portrait bookplate which will be put in the books bought with the income of the fund bequeathed by him one hundred and sixty years ago.



WHEN about a year ago the Library purchased a small package of letters from Lafcadio Hearn to his brother James, there was no thought that these were to become a part of a large and remarkable Hearn collection. Yet this winter Dr. Harris Kennedy, '94, presented to the Harvard Library the Lafcadio Hearn collection that he had gathered during years of patient and enthusiastic search. Dr. Kennedy had not only editions and variants, including translations of Hearn's own writings, and books and magazine articles about him, but many works that contain merely a passing reference to him. There is also an interesting group of books by various friends of Hearn. "Every book, magazine and reference," Dr. Kennedy writes, "has been gathered with one purpose — to answer so far as possible any reasonable question about Hearn and his work." As the books have not yet been arranged or catalogued it is too early to give any extended account of them; moreover the donor himself has kindly promised to write for a future issue of the "Notes" a description of his collection and his aims in making it.

THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY CLUB has met several times since the last issue of the "Notes." On March 8th, a meeting was held at the Harvard Astronomical Observatory. Professor Harlow Shapley, Director, introduced Dr. Annie J. Cannon, who spoke on "A Library of Photographs of the Universe," and Miss Gladys C. Wickson, who spoke on the book collection of the Observatory. Afterward, the members of the Club were conducted through the Observatory and given a very interesting view of Orion through the fifteen-inch telescope.

A dinner devoted to the College Library was held March 27th, at the Faculty Club. Professor Blake introduced the speakers. The first, Mr. Currier, gave a short talk on the history of the Library, and Mr. Briggs spoke on the Circulation and Reference Departments. They were followed by several members of the Library staff, each informing the Club about his particular field. Mrs. Allen spoke on the Treasure Room, Mr. Ellis on the Reading Room, Mrs. Hall on the Theatre Collection, Mrs. Livingston on the Widener Room, Mrs. Milner on the Farnsworth, Freshman, and House Libraries, and Miss Sullivan on the Order Department. Ninety-eight members were present. After the dinner those desiring it were conducted through the Widener Building.

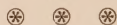
On April 24th, the Club expressed its hope of increased understanding and good will between the libraries of Greater Boston by inviting several of their librarians to be the speakers of the evening. The professional side only was discussed. Miss Ames represented Radcliffe; Miss Barnum, Boston University; Miss Gregory, the Boston Athenaeum; Miss Hopkins, Simmons College; Miss Littell, the Episcopal Theological School; Mr. Ballard, the Boston Medical Association; Mr. Lord, the Boston Public Library; Mr. O'Laughlin, Boston College; Mr. Seaver, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and Mr. Walkley, Tufts College. Mr. Briggs

expressed our desire to give as much freedom as possible in the use of the rich collections at Harvard, and explained the restrictions necessitated by the physical limits of any building and the care demanded in protecting the books.

The May meeting, with dinner at the Faculty Club, was addressed by Mr. Alfred Kaiming Chiu, Librarian of the Chinese-Japanese Collection, who gave a general talk on Chinese libraries. Later the meeting was transferred to the Chinese Library in Boylston Hall, where Mr. Chiu showed the collection.

Membership in the Club has increased to 250.

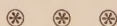
E. C. F.



MR. AND MRS. BLAKE sailed April 27th on the *Europa* for a three months trip abroad, arriving in London at the time of the Royal Jubilee. After a few days there they expected to go directly to Turkey, remaining there until the end of June. They will go from Turkey to Syria, and pass through Iraq into Persia, where they will spend two weeks, most of the time at Ispahan. They expect to return to Cambridge about the middle of August.

Mr. Blake's secretary, Miss Helen Powers, is spending the months of May and June traveling in England and Ireland.

At the Spring meeting of the Boston Group of Catalogers and Classifiers Miss Constance Carter, of the Catalogue Department, was elected Secretary. She succeeds Mr. Kimball C. Elkins.



THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY have stood by through the lean years. While naturally the number of subscribers and the total amount given has fallen off since

1930, it is interesting to note that the average amount of each gift has remained about the same, and the total of the contributions for 1934 shows a healthy increase over the preceding year. Many who had not been able to give for several years returned to the fold — a cheering sign of recovery. In the last two years the money thus generously given has as usual been spent for divers purposes, but nearly always for books that could not have been bought with the regular funds — especially in these years of reduced income. A certain portion of the money was at the request of the donors spent for new and current books.

Of other purchases only a few can be mentioned here as illustrations. One of the most important supplements our great collection on Mormonism given by Mrs. William Hooper some years ago. This is a carefully prepared typewritten analysis of articles in Illinois, Iowa, and Missouri newspapers relating to the Mormons in those states, compiled by Mr. and Mrs. Cecil A. Snider of Warsaw, Illinois. It consists of thousands of references. Another item in American history is a photostatic copy of the Boston Gazette, 1719-1729, secured from the Massachusetts Historical Society. In English history a long run of the "Mercurius Politicus," 1655-1660, was bought, fitting into the Frederick L. Gay collection of English Civil War tracts. Opportunity also came to pick up an important group of recent German political material, — books and pamphlets relating to Socialism, Fascism, Hitlerism, etc. In English literature, among other items were secured an excessively rare broadside by Dryden, "To my Lord Chancellor," 1662; a play by Dekker, "Sir Thomas Wyatt," 1607; and a photostat of the first English translation of Homer, by Arthur Hall, 1581. In more miscellaneous fields were an early Welsh Bible, 1620; a number of books on mountaineering, continuing a collection started a few years ago at the suggestion of the Harvard

Mountaineering Club; and a few books on angling, keeping up the Fearing collection.

Probably few Harvard graduates know that the Harvard University Library is one of the half-dozen great libraries of the world — perhaps even surpassing in number of volumes the British Museum — and is the largest university library. This is an important and proud position to hold, but it cannot be maintained without the help of friends.

Grateful as we are to the Friends who have contributed, whether annually or at longer intervals, we wish that there were more of them. Now less than two hundred are on our active list. Surely among the 66,000 living alumni of Harvard there must be more men who would be willing and glad to make annual gifts to the Library. The question is how to reach them. If each graduate already enrolled as a Friend would enlist a friend or two of his, that might bring worthwhile results. There are no limits to the amount of individual subscriptions — gifts of one dollar or a thousand are welcome, as indicative of the interest in the welfare of the Library that we want Harvard men and others to show.

Checks should be made payable to Harvard College Library, and mailed to the Librarian.

Friends, find more Friends!



JUST as this issue of the "Notes" was going to press, the Library received five gifts of unusual importance. From the estates of two recently deceased members of the Faculty came their libraries, gathered through the many years of their service to Harvard. Horatio Stevens White, of the Class of 1873, Professor of German, Emeritus, bequeathed a library of some 3,000 volumes, mainly in German literature. James Haughton

Woods, of the Class of 1887, Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus, left a rather larger collection and one more diversified in character. Naturally its greatest strength was in philosophical works, but there were many valuable books in Sanskrit and in Chinese, besides much general literature. It is interesting to note that with each of these collections there is a proviso that such books as Harvard does not need shall go to personal friends, or to certain designated libraries. Some of Professor Woods's books are to go to Yenching University in China.

John Page Woodbury, of Boston, was an early and ardent collector of bookplates, and at his death, in 1910, he had about five thousand of them. Among them may be mentioned a nearly complete collection, in signed proofs, of the plates of J. W. Spenceley, and excellent lots of the plates of E. D. French, A. N. Macdonald, S. Hollyer, and W. P. Barrett, — the last mostly signed proofs. The son of the collector, John Woodbury, '80, has now presented all of them to the Library.

The other two gifts are curiously both to do with the German poet, Heinrich Heine, and they reached the Library almost simultaneously. The first was the gift of Emil Marx, of Frankfurt-am-Main. Besides several first editions of Heine's works and one of Schiller's, its most important feature is an interesting contemporary portrait of Heine. The other Heine gift comes from Carl M. Loeb, of New York. It consists of the collection formed by a noted Berlin bibliophile, Salli Kirschstein, who died only last January. Since at the present writing it has not been unpacked and examined, no adequate account of it can now be given. From the list we have received of its contents we can assume it is a most outstanding collection of Heine's works and works about him, and includes manuscript material, and many portraits. In all, there are more than a thousand items.

THESE "NOTES" do not, and indeed cannot, pretend to cover all the current activities of the Library. Published as they have been at irregular intervals, it has been impossible to record more than a small portion of the interesting and really important accessions to the Library. Gifts and purchases of single books or collections that struck the fancy of the editors, or that they thought might appeal to the friendly reader, have been described; but others perhaps equally valuable have been left unmentioned. Exigency of space as well as editorial taste have here been governing factors. Many articles have been planned, and some written, only to be crowded out for lack of room. Even for the last number several papers were written and then left out at the last moment; and not all of them are included in this issue. So the reader must remember that the "HARVARD LIBRARY NOTES" is not a complete chronicle of Library affairs, but merely an attempt to keep its friends acquainted with some of its concerns past and present, — and perhaps future.

At present the "Notes" are edited jointly by the Librarian and Miss Sullivan.

THE MERRITT WALPOLE COLLECTION

“**H**ORACE WALPOLE, son of the great Prime Minister of Georges First and Second, Eton boy, Cambridge undergraduate, companion of the poet Gray on the ‘Grand Tour,’ placeman, Parliament-man, writer of political squibs and verses, author, printer, collector, connoisseur, antiquary, incomparable letter-writer, octogenarian peer, his span of life covering the major part of the active reign of the three Georges. Criticized, commended; ridiculed, applauded; talked of and written about from his time to ours; but whether overestimated or undervalued, his sayings quoted or his opinions derided, a conspicuous figure in the life of the eighteenth century, social, literary and artistic — a many sided man in truth.”

Thus Percival Merritt began his essay on “Horace Walpole, Printer,” and it seems a fitting introduction to a description of some of the interesting items in the remarkable collection of Walpoliana, which he built up with so much discrimination and which, after his death, came to the Library as the gracious gift of Mrs. Merritt.

The collection, which is a very comprehensive one, comprises some 157 volumes, among them two original Walpole manuscripts of exceptional interest, and two portfolios containing forty other items. The printed books may be divided into three groups: (1) Strawberry Hill items, including the output of the press, the descriptive catalogues of the villa, and works concerning the press and Walpole as printer; (2) Walpole’s works, not issued at the press; (3) association volumes and other items having a Walpole interest.

The first group — the Strawberry Hill items — is by far the most important, not only because, with one

exception, the great treasures of the collection fall within it, but because Walpole's removal to "the little new farm — just out of Twickenham" is regarded as the great event of his life, and the development of the house and press remained for years his chief occupation.

The press was at work from 1757 to 1797 — the year of Walpole's death — but little of importance was printed after 1789. It was a practical printing house, where all kinds of work was done, from labels and cards to books of many pages. The first book issued from the press — and the largest of all the Strawberry Hill editions — was the *Odes of Gray*, which was printed for Dodsley in 1757. This was the work of his first printer, Robinson, who printed all the earlier works until his dismissal in 1759. A "succession of bad printers" followed, until the employment in 1765 of Thomas Kirgate, who served Walpole as printer and secretary until Walpole's death in 1797.

Both this first book and the last — Hannah More's "*Bishop Bonner's Ghost*," 1789 — are in the Merritt collection, as are also twenty-six others of the thirty-six listed in Lowndes' *Bibliographer's Manual* and more than half of the seventy-three "detached pieces" listed there. These little leaflets, the more ephemeral and rarer productions of the press, were issued from time to time "as occasion and inspiration warranted," and comprise such items as Garrick's verses on Gray's *Odes*, and short poems addressed to guests whom Walpole wished to honor, or to members of his circle of friends.

The rarest publication of the press, however, is the unfinished edition of Walpole's "*Works*," 1770. The only perfect copy known forms the brightest gem of Mr. Merritt's collection, and with the two manuscript volumes and the detached pieces places it in the forefront of all Walpole collections. Mr. W. S. Lewis — an authority on Walpole — in a letter to Mr. Potter in February of this year, states that the great Walpolian

prizes of this collection are the 1770 "Works," the two manuscript volumes (Paris journals and the Strawberry Hill visitors book), and the collection of detached pieces. He closes his letter by saying: "These are great treasures and far outstrip every other public library, except the British Museum."

Other items of especial interest and uniqueness are a copy of the first edition of the "Anecdotes of Painting," which belonged to Walpole himself, and a copy of the "Description of the Villa of Mr. Horace Walpole," 1784, from the collection of Mrs. Damer, the daughter of Walpole's favorite cousin. The first four volumes of the "Anecdotes of Painting" were apparently in Walpole's possession for many years, as shown by the various notes and typographical corrections. It is bound in full calf with Walpole's super-libros on the covers. Mrs. Damer's copy of the 1784 edition of the "Description," which is one of two copies in the collection, contains a number of manuscript notes in Walpole's handwriting and has portions of the text apparently cancelled by pencil marks. Mr. Merritt states that it is an early impression and that it is possible that Walpole kept it by him for corrections for his personal use. It also contains a fragment of a Walpole manuscript consisting of a rough draft, with marginal notes, of his account of J. S. Liotard for the fourth volume of his "Anecdotes of Painting" and a card of admission to Strawberry Hill. The collection also contains two copies of the earlier edition of 1774. A copy of the rare "Postscript" to Walpole's "Catalogue of the Royal and Noble Authors of England" was discovered in a recent re-examination of the Merritt Walpoliana.

There are two copies of Henaut's "Cornélie," one Walpole's own copy with his bookplate and super-libros and the author's name on the title-page in his hand. We find George Montagu's copy of Lucan's "Pharsalia," with his bookplate, and his autograph on the title-page.

Although this last was issued in that troubled period between the dismissal of Robinson and the coming of Kirgate, Mr. Merritt considered it without doubt "the best specimen of typographical work, which issued from the press."

Of interest among others of Walpole's works printed by the press are a copy of the first issue of his "Fugitive Pieces in Prose and Verse," 1758, which is a presentation copy to the Rev. William Cole in 1762, and two issues of his "Mysterious Mother," the first, one of the fifty copies issued by the press in 1768, the other published in Dublin by J. Archer, W. Jones, and R. White in 1791. In this latter copy a vignette of Strawberry Hill almost obscures the imprint.

Among the detached pieces are included two versions of the "Questions Proposed to the Society of Antiquaries on the Discovery of Oil Painting," the special title-pages to volumes I-X of "A Collection of all the Dramatic Pieces Published in the Reign of King George the Third," three copies of the "Rules for Obtaining a Ticket to See Strawberry Hill," and "Tonton to Madame la Viscomtesse de Cambis." Of this last — six lines of verse on a single sheet — only two copies were printed. Two copies of the "Rules," one on pink, one on white paper, are printed in italic, beginning: "Mr. Walpole is very ready to oblige," etc. The third is in roman type and begins: "Lord Orford is very ready," etc.

Mention must also be made of Baker's catalogue of Strawberry Hill imprints. Mr. Merritt had not only copies of the pamphlet in octavo, but one of the twenty quarto copies, extra-illustrated. Modern books on the press are not lacking. We find among them Paget Toynbee's edition of the "Strawberry Hill Accounts" and the *Journal of the Press*, and Mr. Merritt's own two volumes, which have been of much help in preparing this description.

Chief among the works of Walpole not printed at Strawberry Hill is the "Castle of Otranto," first issued in 1764. This novel, which purports to be "translated by Wm. Marshall from the original Italian of Onuphrio Muralto" and of which Mr. Merritt had the first six and three later editions, is the work which unmistakably began the romantic revival.

This account should not close without mention of the two manuscripts — two other gems of the collection — the Strawberry Hill visitors book and the Paris journals. The first is the actual diary of admission kept by Walpole himself of the callers at Strawberry Hill to visit his famous art treasures and printing press, and is contained in a small octavo pocket book of red leather, with Walpole's signature on the preliminary leaf. The diary covers a period of some twelve years and the actual names amount to about 1000, each one representing as a rule three others, as the tickets admitted the holder and three guests. Walpole has marked many of the more important visitors, which included the Queen of England and the Duke and Duchess of York, as having been conducted over the house by himself. Anecdotes, verses, conundrums, etc., written in his characteristic witty style, are included in the volume, and an account of Mrs. Damer's works of art. The second manuscript is the journal of his trips to Paris in 1765 and 1767. It was on the first trip that he met the "blind and brilliant Mme. du Deffand," whose friendship was the pretext of his later journeys.

It is not these treasures already described which alone make the collection remarkable — although Mr. Lewis's statement is proof of their worth —, but also the picture it gives, because of its comprehensiveness, of the versatility of Horace Walpole.

MILDRED M. TUCKER

UTOPIAS

PROFESSOR FRANCIS G. PEABODY in 1927 presented to the Harvard Library his collection of Utopias, with the condition that for a time he should retain it in his home, "both to enjoy its companionship and to add to its dimensions and value." Correspondence relating to this gift between Professor Peabody and Professor Coolidge, then Director of the Library, was printed in the "Harvard Library Notes," no. 18 (June, 1927), pp. 121-122. The actual transfer of the books to the Widener building took place in October, 1932.

The collection, which has been kept together with the class designation "Utopia," contains 420 volumes and pamphlets, many of them rare and valuable. In accordance with the desire of Professor Peabody the more important volumes are displayed in one of the wall-cases of the Treasure Room. The remainder are in the Treasure Room stacks.

More than twenty years elapsed after Sir Thomas More's death (1535) before a collected edition of his works was published. The accession of Queen Mary in 1553 removed the official disfavor which his religious convictions had brought upon his name in England, and during her reign a folio volume appeared, entitled "The Workes of Sir Thomas More Knight . . . wrytten by him in the Englysh Tonge" (London, 1557). Two distinct editions of the Latin works were published a few years later, at Basel (1563) and Louvain (1565 and 1566). The Louvain edition is the more complete. The Library now has three copies of it, all with the 1566 imprint.

Of More's single works, other than the "Utopia," only three need be mentioned, the "Epigrammata" (Basel,

1518 and 1520), the "Apologye" (London, 1533), and the "Dialogue of Cumfort Against Tribulation" (Antwerp, 1573). Several other works are present in editions of the seventeenth century and later.

Probably the finest part of the collection is that containing the editions of More's "Utopia," more than seventy in number, in eight different languages. Most of the early editions are included, and nearly all of the more important later ones. Counting only those before 1900, the number is fifty-six, exactly the number listed in the British Museum Catalogue up to that date.

It is natural to think of the "Utopia" as one of the masterpieces of sixteenth century English prose, but this is correct only if one has in mind the translation by Ralph Robinson. The book was written in Latin, and first published in Louvain. It was republished several times in various cities on the continent, and translated into German, Italian, and French, before Robinson's English translation. This, the first edition in English and the first printed in England, appeared in 1551.

The early editions all have long-winded titles, so worded as to serve also as advertisements, in accordance with the custom of the time. The title of the first edition (1516), for instance, is as follows:

Libellus vere aureus, nec minus salutaris quam festivus, de optimo reip. statu deq3 nova insula Utopia, autore clarissimo viro Thoma Moro inclytae, civitatis Londinensis cive & vicecomite, cura M. Petri Aegidii Antverpiësis, & arte Theodorici Martini alustensis, Typographi almae Lovaniensium academiae nunc primum accuratissime editus.

The second edition (Paris, 1517?) has an even longer title. The finest of the early editions in the collection, however, is one of two published by Froben at Basel in 1518. (The earlier of the two is not in the Harvard Library.) This attractive book is adorned with ornamental woodcuts, the designs of which are attributed to Hans Holbein the younger, Ambrose Holbein, and Urs

Graf. Other Latin editions are those published in Louvain in 1548; Cologne, 1555; Wittenberg, 1591; Hanover, 1613; Amsterdam, 1629; Amsterdam, 1631; Oxford, 1663; Glasgow, 1750; London, 1777; Oxford, 1895; and Berlin, 1895.

The first translation of the "Utopia" into a modern language in the collection is that of Ortensio Lando, whose Italian version appeared in Venice in 1548. This rare volume is supplemented by three nineteenth century Italian editions. The first edition in French, another rare book, was published at Paris in 1550. The collection contains seven other editions in French, two in Dutch, including the first (Antwerp, 1553), the first in Spanish (Cordova, 1637) and two others in that language, four in German, and one in Catalan (Barcelona, 1912).

As has already been remarked, the first translation into English, by Ralph Robinson, appeared in 1551. Political and religious considerations perhaps explain why the "Utopia" had not been published in England earlier. Robinson's translation is still the most popular one, but most modern editors base their texts on the second edition (1556), which was revised by Robinson himself. In the eighteenth century this translation was neglected in favor of that by Bishop Burnet, first published in 1684. The Utopia collection contains ten editions of this translation.

The biography of Sir Thomas More begins the year of his execution with the anonymous "Expositio Fidelis de Morte Thomae Mori" (Basel, 1535). This pamphlet has been attributed to Erasmus. Probably the first full biography to be printed is that by Thomas Stapleton, in his "Tres Thomae," of which the collection does not contain the first edition (1588) but has the Cologne edition of 1612. In writing this life, Stapleton drew upon the biography by More's son-in-law, William Roper, a work which circulated in manuscript for many years

before it was published, anonymously, under the title "The Mirrour of Vertue in Worldly Greatness" (Paris, 1626). "The Life and Death of Sir Thomas More" (Paris? 1631?), by his great-grandson, Cresacre More, is the last of the important source books. "Il Moro d'Heliseo Heivodo" (Florence, 1556), by one Ellis Heywood, an English Catholic residing in Italy, is a fictitious dialogue, in which More takes the principal part.

Because of its associations with Sir Thomas More it was natural to include Erasmus's "Praise of Folly" in a collection of this kind. Erasmus dedicated this book to More, and its title (*Moriae Encomium*) is a pun on his name, a compliment which might easily have been misinterpreted, but apparently was not. There are seven editions in the collection, the earliest that of 1522. Another volume, published by Froben in 1517, contains the "Querela Pacis" and several other works by Erasmus, also the "Lucubrationes" of Sir Thomas More.

So much space has been devoted to the *Moriana* that it will be necessary to pass rather rapidly over the utopias and similar works by other authors. This part of the collection contains many works which are not strictly utopias. Most of them, however, have utopian elements which justify their inclusion. Among these may be counted St. Augustine's "De Civitate Dei," two editions of which (Venice, 1475 and 1489) are the oldest books in the collection, which also contains what is probably the first edition in English (London, 1610).

Of the many other items worthy of note, mention may be made of only a few, chosen almost at random. The collection contains first editions of Johann Andrea's "Reipublicae Christianopolis Descriptio" (Strassburg, 1619), of Bacon's "New Atlantis" (appended to his "Sylva Sylvarum," London, 1627), and of "Gulliver's Travels" (London, 1726), including the rare third volume (1727), not by Swift. James Harrington, the political philosopher (1611-1677), is represented by

"Commonwealth of Oceana" (1656) and a half-dozen political tracts, also by the edition of his collected works published in 1771. There are some fifteen volumes and pamphlets by Robert Owen. Of the numerous modern books, the first editions of Henry George's "Progress and Poverty" (San Francisco, 1879) and of Bellamy's "Looking Backward" (Boston, 1888) are perhaps the most worthy of mention.

The collection will be useful not merely to the student of political and social theory, but perhaps equally to the historian of the novel, who will find in it many quaint and little known works of fiction.

KIMBALL C. ELKINS

A HOLLIS BOOK

HOLLIS is a name that has been important in the annals of Harvard for more than two centuries; even today it is commemorated by two professorships, a scholarship, and a book fund, — not to mention Hollis Hall. The first benefactor of this honored name, Thomas Hollis, usually designated on the records as "Merchant, of London," seems to have begun his gifts to the Library by the presentation in 1722 of "a new & fair Edicōn of Milton's Poetical Works." From that time until his death in 1731, he was constantly sending "large packets of valuable books" across the seas to the New England college. How many of these survived the fire that destroyed almost the whole of the Library in 1764 is not known, but certainly they are few in number. One of them has just come back to its home after an absence of perhaps one hundred and seventy years.

This is a little volume entitled "A Collection of the Occasional Papers For the Year 1716," and is the first of a three-volume set. On the title-page is written "The

Gift of Tho^s Hollis Esq^r Rec^d May 5: 1725," and on the end fly-leaf appears another note, "The Gift of M^r Tho's Hollis Merc^{ht} In London, to H Coll. In Cambridge New England." The names of John Hollis and Thomas Hollis are written several times on fly-leaves and also the numbers "25.5.27." These numbers are the old shelf-mark of the book. There is a good deal of scribbling by students; for example, "Perused by John Sturgis" and "H. Coll: Jan: 26-1746 — Thomas Hollis. Perus'd by George Minot. H: C:— Books & good converse are my Days Delight," and again by the same writer "H College. Perus'd pr. George Minot Perus.d time well spent if you wasn't a goat. 1751." Minot was of the Class of 1752, and Sturgis of 1750.

The book is entered in the printed catalogue of 1725 with its two companion volumes, and appears again as a lone volume in a manuscript catalogue prepared soon after the fire of 1764; but there is a separate entry for another copy of volume I and of volume II of the "Occasional Papers." These are still in the Library and were the gifts of Benjamin Avery and Andrew Oliver, evidently among the offerings that were poured in to replace the burned library. In the Library Archives there was discovered not long ago "A List of the Books belonging to the late Library of Haryard College that were in the Hands of the Overseers, Governors & Students of the College & escap'd the flames." In this document, which lists four hundred and four volumes, we find the entry "Occasional Paper Vol 1 S^r Eliot." This means that Andrew Eliot, then Librarian, serving at "the Rate of six Pounds ₧ Annum," had this book out at the time of the fire, and thus it was saved. That much is proved, but its subsequent history is in doubt. The probability is that some later librarian rejected it as a duplicate and it was sold. At any rate, it turned up in an auction room, probably Libbie's in Boston, some twenty years ago, and was bought by Philip L. Spaul-

ding, '92. A few months ago he generously gave it to the Library and it is now in the Treasure Room with other Hollis books.

ALFRED C. POTTER

HOLLIS BOOKPLATES

NOT LONG AGO there turned up in the print collection a forgotten portrait of "Thomas Hollis, Esq^r F.R.S." This Thomas Hollis, the College's third benefactor of that name, and distinguished in the College Records as "of Lincoln's Inn," inherited, besides the name, the fortunes of his father and his great-uncle, and with them the family interest in Harvard. The first of his gifts to the Library were forty-four quarto volumes shipped from England probably in the autumn of 1758, and acknowledged in a letter from President Holyoke dated September 1759. Closely following these were two handsomely bound volumes of Milton's "Prose Works," which, like many of his later gifts, Hollis inscribed. It is interesting to note that it took a year for the books to reach their destination, for although the inscription was dated January 1, 1759, the volumes were not received and acknowledged until December 28th. Thus Hollis began a succession of donations which continued almost to the end of his life, and exceeded in value fourteen hundred pounds sterling; and at his death in 1774 he bequeathed an additional sum of five hundred pounds. When the fire in 1764 destroyed Harvard Hall, and with it the Library, "fifty-six volumes, by the present worthy Thomas Hollis . . . to whom we have been annually obliged for valuable additions to our late Library . . . being but lately received, had not the proper boxes prepared for them; and so escaped the general ruin." Happily the two volumes of Milton likewise escaped the flames, because President Holyoke, according to a memorandum in his own hand,

had never placed them in the Library. That these gifts were appreciated is shown by a letter written by Holyoke, July 9, 1766

Sir, — Having reserved one of the alcoves in our Library, of which there are ten in all, for your books, we have now placed them; and a most beautiful appearance they make: we have some other alcoves that look very well, but not as the Hollis. Though I look upon this as a small thing in comparison with the wise choice you have made of the subjects in them treated of, and the excellent authors among them; as they well nigh fill one alcove, we have hung therein a table, whereon is inscribed the name of Hollis, in large gilt capitals; besides which there is pasted on the inside of the cover of each of your bo[o]ks the inclosed, cut in black as to those of them we suffer to be lent out, and in red as to those we think too precious for loan, which those gentlemen who want them may consult in the library, we having all conveniences for that purpose, and the Librarian always ready to attend them.

This letter also brings up a curious question relating to the Hollis bookplate. The Library had an engraved plate made by Nathaniel Hurd about 1765 for the Hancock gifts. The same plate, with the place for the name left blank, frequently occurs both in red and black in books of the same period. It was to this plate that President Holyoke probably referred, since two examples in black have been found with the name of Thomas Hollis written in. The supposition that blank Hurd plates were put in the Hollis books is further strengthened by the finding of a small label, pasted on the fly-leaf of several of them, and reading:

EX DONO

THOMAE HOLLIS, ANGLI,

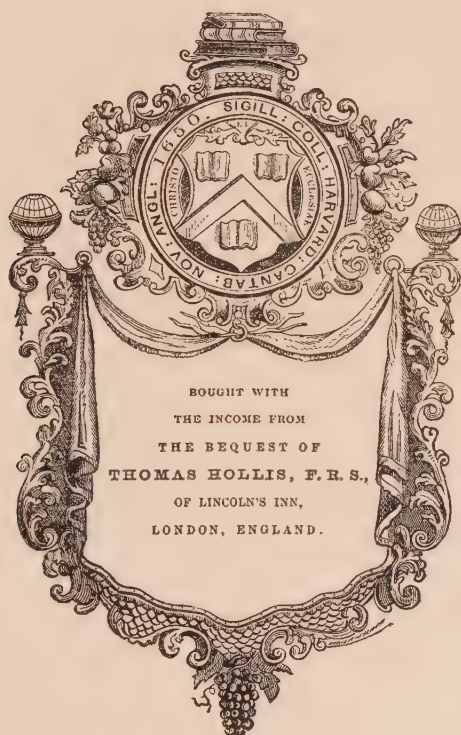
HOSPIT. LINCOLN.

REG. ET ANT. SS. LOND.

SODALIS

Well past the opening of the nineteenth century, there was made by a London engraver, evidently from a degenerate re-drawing of the Hurd design, an engraved

present Librarian was inspired to have one made. The print was reproduced in slightly reduced size by photo-gravure, and the words "Harvard College Library"



engraved on the plinth. Henceforth a portrait of the donor will appear in all books bought from the income of the Library's first fund.

GERTRUDE M. SULLIVAN

WHITTIERIANA

TO TRACK down the numerous poems which have, at different times, been wrongly attributed to Whittier is one of the intriguing tasks that have been a by-product of my Whittier bibliography, which is, by the way, rapidly approaching the final stages.

The "Cambridge History of American Literature" lists as Whittier's a poem "Seventy-Five" which is almost too martial for a Quaker poet. It is said to have been first printed in the newspaper *Brother Jonathan* on October 12, 1839, and was, at the time, and later, copied elsewhere, appearing as recently as December 19, 1907, in the *New York Independent* as his. The truth is that it was written by George Lunt, a Newburyport lawyer, and was, in 1839, included in the New York edition of Lunt's poems. Whittier himself disclaimed the authorship in a letter to the *Boston Evening Transcript*, printed in the issue of March 21, 1887, but although this letter has been quoted in connection with the mystery of Whittier's "Song of the Vermonters," his reference to the Lunt poem has, apparently, been overlooked.

The Haverhill Tri-Weekly Publisher of June 22, 1867, published under Whittier's name, as author, J. G. Saxe's poem "Little Jerry the Miller," and the Amesbury Villager of October 9, 1879, has a poem "The Cider Mill, by John G. Whitter," beginning with the line "Under the blue New England skies." A memorandum written by Samuel T. Pickard, Whittier's literary executor and biographer, and found among Mr. Pickard's papers, reads, in reference to this latter poem, "not Whittier's," but the true author has not yet been traced, and the undersigned would be pleased to receive more light on this matter, as also on a poem beginning

The blood that flowed at Lexington
And crimsoned bright Champlain

that is unreservedly attributed to Whittier in the Haverhill Tri-Weekly Publisher of February 9, 1861, under the caption "Whittier and the Union"; this has a strangely familiar sound, but no trace of it has been found elsewhere.

T. FRANKLIN CURRIER

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL'S LIBRARY

HARVARD has recently acquired by purchase from the income of the Henry Saltonstall Howe fund a number of books from the library of James Russell Lowell with notes in his hand. Among these is a set of Mitford's edition of Thomas Gray's Works, published by Pickering in 1853 in five volumes. The numerous notes are mainly typographical corrections and look as if made in preparation for a new edition of Gray. But if, as seems probable, Lowell edited Gray's Poems for the Little, Brown edition in their series of British Poets, he did not follow his own corrections, for many of the misprints and other errors persist. The copy of the "Life of Benjamin Robert Haydon" (1853, 3 volumes) has a multitude of notes all through the volumes, some rather caustic, — it is more than evident that Lowell was no admirer of Haydon. On the other hand, the notes in the Lowell copy of Jones Very's "Essays and Poems" (Boston, 1839) show a warm appreciation for that talented writer. In four other books the notes consist mainly of page references, jotted down on the last leaf or on the back cover of the book, to passages that struck Lowell's fancy as he was reading the works, and that he wanted to be able to refer to later. These books are Bacon's "The Historie of the Reigne of King Henry VII" (1629); Digby's "Two Treatises on Immortality" (1645); Glan-

vil's "Saducismus Triumphatus" (1689); and Fuller's "The Historie of the Holy Warre" (1647).

Since it is fairly well known that Lowell bequeathed his books to the College, the reader may be curious to know how it happens that now, over forty years after his death, the Library is buying some of his books, — and at fairly high prices. The story, although a matter of Library tradition, has never been told in print; but after the lapse of many years perhaps it may be.

The present Librarian well remembers when as a very junior assistant he worked over the Lowell bequest in the dark and gloomy basement of old Gore Hall, — dark, because at that time there were no lights of any kind in the building. (In winter the Library frequently closed soon after three, — a condition we juniors did not seem to mind!) One day the executor of the Lowell estate, George Putnam, of the Class of 1854, came down to see how the work of sorting the books was coming along. He asked various questions as to which books were being kept and which were to be returned to the estate as duplicates. The two piles were pointed out. He at once picked up a copy of "Don Quixote" and said "But of course, you have this in the Library." "No, sir, not in that edition," was the reply. He insisted that unless we could show that that particular copy was better than any the Library had we could not keep it. He then stormed off to see Mr. Winsor. The discussion must have been a lively one, for they both were hot-tempered and outspoken men. But Mr. Putnam seemed to have won the bout, for subsequently many books that had been selected and stamped as the property of the Library from the Lowell bequest were again stamped as "Duplicate rejected" and returned to the family. (Some of them were later purchased through a special subscription and now form the basis of the library of the Romance Department.)

Why neither the Library nor the Corporation ever

took steps to enforce what seems a valid claim is not known. Why the books mentioned above were not taken as preferable copies is also obscure; but at that time "association books" was a term almost unknown, and they were probably looked upon as books defaced by a lot of scribbling! There has lately been found in the Library archives the following letter from the executor, setting forth at considerable length his side of the case.

24 Quincy St.

10 Dec. 91.

My dear Mr. Winsor:

I doubt if there will be any serious practical difference between us when I look over the questionable cases under the arrangement I made with Mr. Lane this morning. But I found Mrs. Burnett so much impressed by the extent of the claims of the college and Mr. Norton, when I saw him about it, seeming to me to entertain such extravagant views as to extent of the bequest, that I thought I ought to examine into the matter on Mrs. Burnett's behalf — the more so that strictly the Executors are the proper persons to see to the execution of the bequest.

The words of the will are "I give to the corporation of Harvard College for the Library thereof, my copy of Webster on Witchcraft formerly belonging to Increase Mather President of the College, and also any books from my library of which the College Library does not already possess copies or of which the copies or editions in my Library are for any reason whatever preferable to those possessed by the College Library." There are two points on which I think the Library authorities assert an inadvisable construction.

1. They claim that a different edition is a different "book" within the meaning of the will; so that they are entitled to any book in Mr. Lowell's Library of which they have not the same edition. For example they have set aside a copy of Fielding's works, several copies of Don Quixote & Calderon &c. claiming them on the ground that they are books not in the Library because they are editions not in the Library. Now whatever may be the usage of Librarians, the language of a will cannot be so construed as to mean that one edition of Fielding is a different "book" from another. (I leave out of account editions so considerably annotated that the annotations may make them a substantially different book.) And however it might be with any other will this one shows in the next sentence that the testator did not understand an edition to be a separate book by providing that where the college already has the book it may nevertheless take his copy if the edition is preferable. This

would be a needless provision if the different edition was a different book.

2. They claim that if Mr. Lowell's copy or edition is in any respect preferable to the one in the College Library they have a right to it. If this were the true construction of the bequest I don't see why you couldn't take the whole of Mr. Lowell's Library. It is hardly possible that his copies or editions have not some points of advantage over those of the College in every case. But the true meaning of the clause is that the College may have any copy or edition which is "preferable" to that of the College. "Preferable" means one which you would prefer to your own if you had to choose. "Preferable for any reason whatever" merely means that if it is "preferable" the reasons why are unimportant. To read the words "for any reason whatever" as if they were "in any respect whatever" is to destroy the force of the word preferable and to break down all limitation on the extent of the bequest.

Nothing is more certain than that the bequest was not intended to cover his whole library. It begins by selecting a single book — then adds such other books (presumably few) as the College does not possess — then adds still further such books of his as are "preferable" to those of the College whether because the copy or the edition is better and whether the reasons why they are preferable are based on condition or completeness or value or intrinsic merit or whatever else. But they must be "preferable" on the whole and absolutely and not merely in this or that respect.

I have outlined roughly the argument which persuades me that the College has been proceeding on a mistaken view of the meaning of the bequest. I dare say however the dispute will turn out to be purely academic and that Mrs. Burnett will be willing to surrender any books that the Library desires without too close a scrutiny into the legal rights involved.

I am very truly yours
Geo. Putnam

As a document that could hardly have been written at the present day, this seems worth printing.

ALFRED C. POTTER

THE LIBRARY BINDERY

THERE have been many arguments and discussions among administrators of large libraries on the advantages and disadvantages of supporting a bindery.

For some years, the Harvard Library had a well organized repair shop conducted by Mr. Holzwarth, a

workman of exceptional ability. To him could be entrusted the finest Treasure Room item; but at the same time, his services were available instantly for a "rush" job, many of which are necessary in a college library. After the sudden death of Mr. Holzwarth, Mr. Lane, then Librarian, became interested in the experiment of starting a "Library Bindery."

In April 1920, Mr. Charles Facey, one of the two commercial binders to whom the Library had for some years been sending work, was asked to start a small practical bindery and repair shop in the basement of the Widener building. Here it was intended to handle, at first, only a part of the binding, the rest to be sent out as usual. By the end of that year, the experiment seemed to be working out well; the staff was increased and more equipment added. Within a year or two, the Library Bindery was taking care of all the work of the College Library proper, and was also binding for some thirty-three Department and Special Libraries. The logical result was, of course, further enlargement and expansion as our budget was increased from year to year, and as other and larger Departments of the University began to send in work. The Bindery had become a well established unit of the Library service. The advantages of having such a service within the walls of Widener were distinctly felt by all concerned. The financial worries which were, of course, inevitable were outweighed by the fact of having the books always in the building, by the personal interest of the Bindery staff in the quality of work turned out, and by the close touch and oversight upon the administration thereof which the Library was able to exercise.

In September 1929, the lack of proper physical space forced the removal of the Bindery to Boylston Hall Annex and much additional equipment was put in. Within a year, plans for building the Wigglesworth dormitories necessitated the razing of Boylston Annex,

and the Bindery was again moved, this time to a building on Memorial Drive, a mile distant from the Library. From that time, the problem of administering the Bindery became a more difficult one. The books were no longer in the building, an express service had to be maintained, and easy contact was impossible. The "personal touch" which had saved many a situation was lost. With the first move, we felt convinced that the logical time had come for the Library to give over the responsibility of the Bindery to the University for further expansion. For several years, we worked with that end in view, and so gradually were the fundamental changes effected that when the separation became official, on July 1st, 1934, there remained only a few adjustments in routine and bookkeeping. The Library is now merely one of the customers of the "University Bindery." Most of the Departmental Libraries are continuing to send work to the Bindery, but the College Library no longer needs to assume the responsibility of go-between — each Department outside of the Widener building must deal directly with the Bindery.

The growth of the Library Bindery from its start in 1920 to July 1st, 1934, is shown by the following statement. In the academic year 1920-21, 4469 items, of which 187 were pamphlets, were bound at a total expenditure of \$7278.10, four persons comprising the staff of the Bindery. In 1933-34, 23,269 items, of which 8059 were pamphlets, were bound at an expenditure of \$25,533.16, with eighteen people employed. The apparent decrease in the cost per item is largely due to the fact that an unprecedented number of pamphlets were handled during 1933-34, and that a large number of them were covered in a cheaper style of binding, lately developed. The cost of the average-sized book has varied surprisingly little in the course of the twenty years. In 1920-21, the schedule price of the average size was \$1.60; the price list in 1933-34 quoted the same

figure. In March 1935, however, the increase in the cost of materials and stock forced the price to \$1.65, for the same size and style.

At the time of the reorganization, the Library once more established a "repair corner" — very much needed since the Bindery was moved from the building. With very little equipment, a service is maintained which undoubtedly will save money for the Library, with the added convenience of having books quickly repaired, and available at a moment's notice.

MABEL F. BARNES

STUDENT HELP

SINCE the Temporary Student Employment Plan was inaugurated in the fall of 1932, the Library has been able to make use of about thirty students annually. These men, who have each given from four hundred to six hundred hours work during the college year, have ranged from sophomores to seniors, and, during the first year, one graduate student was included in the number. They have been assigned to the various departments of the Library, in which case the department has assumed complete charge of their duties; Mr. Walton has acted as liaison officer between the Library and Mr. Sharpe's office and has taken care of certain special projects.

Because of the general excellence of the men turned over to the Library, and their reassignment for the second and third years, it has been possible not only to use them for clerical and other necessary work to relieve members of the regular staff, but also to put many on jobs requiring judgment, skill, and accuracy. A few of these are worthy of special mention:

1. During the two years and a half that the plan has been in progress, more than 50,000 items have passed through their hands for searching in the Union Catalogue to reveal duplicates and to record certain data preliminary to the regular processes of cataloguing and

classification. They have also helped in the comparison of the duplicates found with the copies already in the Library and have recorded in the shelf-lists those to be kept.

2. The official archives of the University — better known to some of us as the "UA" and "HU" collections — have been put in order. This necessitated not only rearrangement but the assimilation of more than forty boxes of old records which were received from the College Office and added to the collection.

3. More than 75,000 pieces of uncatalogued public documents, issued by thirty different countries, have been arranged.

4. The old pamphlet files and reserves of uncatalogued pamphlets have been sorted and arranged. Work is now in progress on the arrangement and classification of the Nolen Lincoln pamphlets. This latter has been done much more easily and with much greater interest and intelligence because the student to whom it was assigned had worked in his father's bookstore.

This takes note only of the bigger jobs, and makes no mention of some of the smaller ones — the copying of badly crowded sections in the shelf-lists, the checking and accessioning of school books, the checking of a list of Icelandic duplicates, the classifying of volumes in contemporary English and American literature, or the filing of cards in our Official Catalogue; nor does it make any mention of the conscientiousness and seriousness of purpose that the men have shown, or of their willingness and adaptability.

The gain has not all been on the Library's side; the training in accuracy and perseverance which the men have received, and the familiarity with books and catalogues which they have gained, will be of benefit to them. Although a good deal of time must be spent by members of the regular staff in instruction and revision, we have come to depend upon the students, and we agree heartily with Dr. Scott: "We have been pleasantly surprised at the amount of help these men have contributed. We have benefited materially by their endeavors."

MILDRED M. TUCKER



